

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, January 2, 1865.—Ordered to be printed.

[By Mr. NORTON.]

AMENDMENT

To Section 3rd of the Bill to be entitled An Act to authorise the consolidation of companies, battalions and regiments.

1 After the word "rolls" in the fourth line, strike out to the
2 fourteenth line, and insert, "officers who shall thus lose their
3 rank, and all other company, battalion, regimental, post or de-
4 partment officers, (except prisoners of war,) not assigned to duty,
5 who do not elect to serve in some company thus consolidated or
6 previously established, shall have the privilege, within sixty
7 days, of forming themselves into companies, battalions or regi-
8 ments, at such time and place as the commander of their respec-
9 tive departments shall direct. The organization thus composed
10 shall be known and designated as the "Confederate States Le-
11 gion of Honor;" said Legion of Honor shall be officered
12 by election from its own members, with the approval of the
13 President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate;
14 each member thereof being entitled to wear such "decoration"
15 as shall be prescribed for this corps. Said organization to be
16 equipped in the most approved style, and so armed and
17 instructed, as to insure it the greatest military efficiency,
18 and shall serve in separate detachments, or collectively,

19 or in conjunction with other commands subject to the
20 regulations for the government of troops of a like arm, and in
21 such district or department, under such orders and commander
22 as the Commander in Chief of the Confederate States armies
23 may direct; *Provided*, That officers who may select and serve
24 in other commands, and officers, non-commissioned officers and
25 soldiers in any part of the army, who have, or may hereafter,
26 specially distinguish themselves in action, shall be considered
27 members of the Legion of Honor, and be entitled to its decora-
28 tions in their several commands. *Provided further*, That able
29 bodied officers on post, staff or department duty, who may re-
30 sign their positions in favor of disabled officers, shall be enti-
31 tled to all the privileges of this section, and any member of the
32 Legion of Honor who may become permanently disabled, may,
33 at the discretion of the department commander and the consent
34 of the President, be restored to his original rank, and be assign-
35 ed to any vacancy in post, staff or department service, for which
36 he may be found qualified.